

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-17 (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A composition comprising a mixture of sulfonated 3,4-dihydroxybutane, sulfonated 1,4-dihydroxybutane and sulfonated oligomers of ~~3,4-epoxy-1-butene dihydroxybutane~~.

19. (currently amended) A monomer comprising a ~~sulfonated and sulfinated, or disulfonated~~ mixture of sulfonated 3,4-dihydroxybutane, sulfonated 1,4-dihydroxybutane and sulfonated oligomers of dihydroxybutane, wherein the monomer is suitable for polycondensation [[,]] thereby providing to provide sulfonate-containing polyesters.

Claims 20-22 (canceled)